

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Please amend claims 1-6, 9 and 10 as follows:

STATUS OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for performing a competitive immunoassay for detecting C-reactive protein in a sample containing an amount of C-reactive protein comprising:
 - i. contacting a the sample with an immobilized, a low affinity anti-human C-reactive protein antibody and a labeled antiidiotypic antibody, wherein the labeled antiidiotypic antibody binds to the anti-human C-reactive protein antibody and inhibits binding to the C-reactive protein.
 - ii. detecting the label, and
 - iii. correlating the detection of the label with the amount of C-reactive protein in the sample.
2. (currently amended) A method for performing a competitive immunoassay for detecting C-reactive protein in a sample containing an amount of C-reactive protein comprising:
 - i. contacting a the sample with an immobilized antiidiotypic antibody and a labeled low affinity anti-human C-reactive protein antibody, wherein the antiidiotypic antibody binds to the labeled anti-human C-reactive protein antibody and inhibits binding to the C-reactive protein.
 - ii. detecting the label, and
 - iii. correlating the detection of the label with the amount of C-reactive protein in the sample.

3. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 8~~ claim 1 wherein the low affinity anti-human C-reactive protein antibody is CRP5-23 (PTA-1354).
4. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 9~~ claim 2 wherein the antiidiotypic antibody ~~is antibody~~ is capable of binding CRP5-23 (PTA-1354).
5. (currently amended) A kit for a competitive immunoassay comprising: a first antibody wherein said first antibody is a low affinity anti-human C-reactive protein antibody and a second antibody ~~where~~ wherein said second antibody is an antiidiotypic antibody capable of binding said first antibody.
6. (currently amended) A hybridoma cell line, identified as CRP5-23 (PTA-1354), capable of producing a low affinity anti-human C-reactive protein antibody.
7. (original) An antibody produced by the hybridoma of claim 6.
8. (original) The antibody of claim 7 wherein said antibody is insensitive to ionized calcium.
9. (currently amended) A purified, isolated An antiidiotypic antibody raised against a low affinity anti-human C-reactive protein antibody, which is capable of binding to CRP5-23 with relatively high affinity ($K_d < 10^{-8}M$), and its binding to CRP5-23 is mutually exclusive with binding of C-reactive protein.
10. (currently amended) A hybridoma cell line, identified as C23id2-6.3 (PTA-1353), capable of producing an antiidiotypic antibody.